

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 288355
ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
NEA-10 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SP-02
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DRAFTED BY IO/IBC/SC:JDFOX:MFW
APPROVED BY IO - GHELMAN
EUR/WE - JDOBBINS
P - GMOOSE

-----037939 022313Z /66

O R 022203Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 288355

USEEC, ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, AORG, FR

SUBJECT: UN RESTRUCTURING: FRENCH DEMARCHE

REF: USUN 5166

1. COUNSELOR BERNARD BOYER OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY REQUESTED
A MEETING DECEMBER 2 WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES TO
INDICATE THE GENERAL FRENCH POSITION REGARDING THE
DIRECTOR GENERAL ISSUE IN THE UN RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE,
AND THE REVISED G-77 TEXT ON THE ISSUE (REFTEL) IN
PARTICULAR. BOYER MET WITH THE UN RESTRUCTURING ACTION
OFFICER (FOX) IN VIEW OF MR. MAYNES' DEPARTURE FOR NEW
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YORK.

2. BOYER INDICATED THAT THE REVISED G-77 TEXT ON THE
DIRECTOR GENERAL POSITION IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE FRENCH.
THEY BELIEVE THE TEXT CALLS FOR TOO MUCH DELEGATION OF
THE SYG'S AUTHORITY; THEY ARE VERY DISAPPOINTED THAT THE
WORD "ASSIST" HAS NOW DISAPPEARED FROM THE G-77 TEXT; THE

TEXT IMPLIES THAT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL WOULD DISPOSE OF HIS OWN BUDGET AND STAFF; AND THE PROPOSED CONFIRMATION OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S APPOINTMENT BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REFLECTS THE G-77 INTENTION TO ESTABLISH WHAT WOULD AMOUNT

TO A DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL IN CHARGE OVERALL OF UN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES. BOYER STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE AND URGENCY OF THE CONCERNS IN PARIS REGARDING THE REVISED G-77 TEXT.

3. REGARDING THE ISSUE IN GENERAL, BOYER INDICATED THAT FRANCE NEEDS "GUARANTEES FOR THE NORMAL EXERCISING OF THE FUNCTIONS" OF THE UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (USYG/ESA). HE SAID THE FRENCH ARE AFRAID THAT THE UNITED STATES AND THEIR OTHER "FRIENDLY PARTNERS" MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO MAKE TOO MANY CONCESSIONS ON THIS ISSUE. THEY COULD ACCEPT A "SENIOR OFFICIAL" TO BE ENTRUSTED WITH "OVERALL COORDINATION AND EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT." HOWEVER, THIS NEW POSITION MUST BE AT THE SAME RANK AS THE OTHER USYGS, ALTHOUGH IT COULD BE "FIRST AMONG EQUALS." BOYER REPEATED THE FRENCH ARGUMENT THAT A RANK HIGHER THAN USYG COULD NOT BE ALLOWED UNDER THE CHARTER. HE SAID THEY COULD NOT ACCEPT THE TITLES OF "DIRECTOR GENERAL" OR "ECONOMIC ADVISER." BOYER STRESSED THAT THE VIEWS HE INDICATED REPRESENTED SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS BY THE FRENCH AND THAT THEY COULD GO NO FURTHER. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. BOYER SAID HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO REFER TO THE OCTOBER LUNCHEON AGREEMENT BETWEEN SECRETARY VANCE AND FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD TO THE EFFECT THAT THE U.S. AND FRENCH MISSIONS IN NEW YORK WOULD CONSULT TOGETHER TO REACH AGREEMENT ON THIS ISSUE. THEY BELIEVE THE TIME HAS COME TO REACH AGREEMENT.

5. BOYER CLOSED BY INDICATING CONCERN IN PARIS THAT THE UNITED STATES MIGHT BE WILLING TO "ABANDON" THE INTEGRATION OF UN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND COULD ACCEPT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL POSITION.

6. IN RESPONSE TO BOYER'S INTEREST, HE WAS ASSURED THAT THESE LATEST FRENCH VIEWS WOULD BE COMMUNICATED TO UNDER SECRETARY HABIB (WHO HAD BEEN CALLED ON THIS ISSUE EARLIER IN THE MORNING BY THE FRENCH EMBASSY.) VANCE

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